

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/778,479

Examiner

Thomas E. Shortledge

Applicant(s)

SCHMID ET AL.

Art Unit

2654

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Remarks filed 07/08/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-13, 21-26 and 27.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is in response to Remarks received 07/08/2005.
2. Claims 1-13 and 21-26 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 21 and 27 are independent.
3. Claims 6, 7, 11, 12, 14-20 have been canceled. Independent claim 27 has been added. Claims 1, 8, 9, and 13 have been amended.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-5, 8-10, 13 and 21-27 are allowed.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 1 recites a computer-readable medium providing a computer-loadable data structure representing a state-and-transition based description of a speech grammar, the data structure comprising: a first and second transition from a first state, where the second transition is contiguous with the first transition entry. The second transition has a last transition value set to indicate that the second transition is the last transition from the first state. Rule entries, where each rule entry representing a group of transitions; and wherein at least one transition entry has a content index value that is an index to a rule entry in the rule entries.

The prior art of record teach a computer readable medium providing a computer-loadable data structure, representing a state-and-transition-based description of a speech grammar. The grammar containing a first transition representing a transition from a first state and a second transition entry representing a second transition from the first state. Chung et al. also teach using rules within the grammar (col. 3, lines 42-44, 57, and Fig. 1).

However, prior art of record do not teach nor fairly suggest each rule entry representing a group of transitions, a last transition value within the second transition from the first state, and at least one transition has a content index value that is an index to a rule entry in the rule entries.

Claim 21 recites a string of words containing words in the speech grammar, and a set of fixed size transition entries, each transition entry representing a transition in a structure that describes the speech grammar and each transition entry having a same fixed size as all other transition entries in the set of transition entries, at least one transition entry making reference to a word in the string of words.

The prior art of record teaches a speech grammar containing a string of words, with states and transition entries between each word. However, the prior art of record fails to teach or fairly suggest each transition entry having a same fixed size as all other transition entries in the set of transition entries.

Claim 27 recites a computer-readable medium providing a computer-loadable data structure representing a state-and-transition based description of a speech grammar, the data structure comprising: a first and second transition from a first state, where the second transition is contiguous with the first transition entry. The second transition has a last transition value set to indicate that the second transition is the last transition from the first state. A symbol string from of a sequence of symbols; and representing semantic information associated with a transition in the grammar and each semantic entry comprising a name offset that provides an offset to a symbol in the symbol string, the symbol identified by the offset representing a semantic tag.

The prior art of record teaches a state-and-transition based grammar within a computer medium, the grammar having a first and second transition from a first state. The prior art or record also teaches the data structure further comprises a set of semantic entries.

However, the prior art of record does not teach nor fairly suggest each semantic entry comprises a name offset that provides an offset to a symbol in the symbol string, the symbol identified by the offset representing a semantic tag.

6. Claims 2-5, 8-10, 13 and 22-26 are allowable since they depend upon allowed claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

Art Unit: 2654

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See PTO-892.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas E. Shortledge whose telephone number is (571)272-7612. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00 - 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richemond Dorvil can be reached on (571)272-7602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

Art Unit: 2654

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TS

09/28/2005



RICHEMOND DORVIL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER